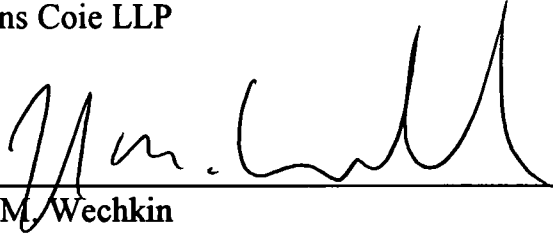


Applicants respectfully request entry of the above-amendment. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this matter, he is encouraged to contact Mr. Wechkin by telephone at (206) 287-3257.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Wechkin', is written over a horizontal line.

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Appendix
Marked to Show Changes

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of ~~pending~~ United States Patent Application No. ~~08/914,570, filed March 6, 1998~~ 09/036,249, filed March 6, 1998, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,993,303.